

sponse, the Examiner's attention is requested at U.S. Patent 5,896,917, the now issued case for the co-pending application that formed the basis for the double patenting rejection.

Please note that the issued patent claims a filing date, which limits the duration of the patent to 20 years from its original filing date. This means that both the subject application and the issued patent expire on the same date and a terminal disclaimer should not be necessary. Re-consideration of the double patenting rejection is requested.

Claims 1-4 and 23-26 in the case have been rejected on the basis of being obvious in view of the patent to Wang, 5,583,746. Wang teaches a heat sink assembly formed of a plurality of stacked rings and spacers around a fan. Heat is conducted from the CPU to be cooled through the stack to the rings and because of the laminar type construction is less efficient in heat conduction than Applicants solid body.

Wang, furthermore, does not describe the use of the relationships of the rings and propeller spacing as described and claimed by Applicants. Hence, it can not be clear from the description in Wang that his structure renders Applicants' claims obvious.

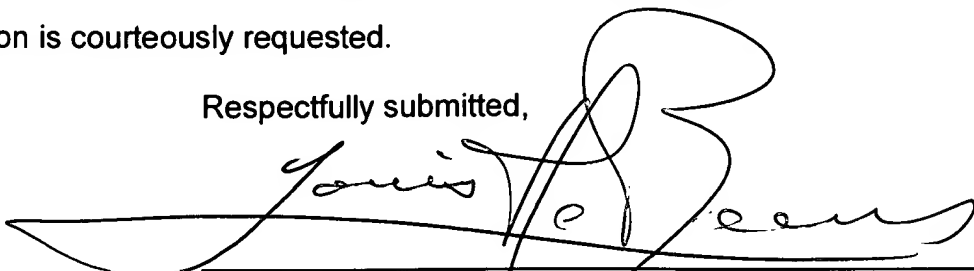
Claims 5, 16-18, 21-22 and 27-28 have been rejected as obvious in view of Wang and the patent to Minakami et al. The latter reference also comprises a multi-layered structure with which a CPU can be cooled.

Minakami et al is applied because it teaches a in his Figure 34 a heat pipe on which fins are mounted. However, only claim 28 in Applicants claims is directed at a heat pipe. Hence, why is Minakami et al pertinent to the other ejected claims? Furthermore, Applicants claimed structure involves a solid body with integral rings in a special relationship with respect to the fan propeller. If neither of the cited references mention this special relationship in conjunction with the heat sink it is submitted that the claims are not obvious and, therefore, patentable.

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In view of the amendment of the claims and the above discussion of the art cited by the Examiner, it is submitted that all claims in the case are allowable and early favorable consideration is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Louis H. Reens", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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